

North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting

Minutes

Regular Meeting/**Special Meeting**/Organizational Meeting
Thursday, May 5, 2016, 5:45 p.m.
5 Linsley Street, North Haven, CT 06473

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Bryan Bogen, Jennifer Caldwell, Jennifer Cecarelli, Goldie Adele, Dorothy Logan, Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent, and Robert Cronin, Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Matthew Kerzner joined meeting at a later time.

- I. Consent Agenda
 1. Minutes April 14, 2016
 2. Retirement of the following:
 - a. Mary Federico, Principal at Montowese Elementary School
 - b. Debbie Iacucci, Special Education Teacher at Montowese Elementary School
 - c. Constance Schingh, Grade 5 Teacher at Green Acres Elementary School
 - d. Randall Smith, Art Teacher at North Haven Middle School
 - e. Jeanne Mangino, World Language Teacher at North Haven Middle School
 - f. Karen Bernardo, Grade 2 Teacher at Montowese Elementary School
 - g. Donna Darcy, Library Clerk at North Haven High School
 3. Resignation of Donna Birney, Family and Consumer Science Teacher at North Haven High School
 4. Maternity Leave for the following:
 - a. Kathryn Monigan, Social Studies Teacher at North Haven High School
 - b. Katherine Fountain, Art Teacher at North Haven High School

Moved: to approve the consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
SECOND: Bryan Bogen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

- II. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Celeste reported:

- National Honor Society letters went out
- Induction to the World Language Honor Society
- Art Beat is tonight at NHHS until 8 p.m.
- AP testing this week and next week

Larissa reported:

- May 22, 2016 is the Senior Picnic – tickets are on sale
- May 20, 2016 is Prom – tickets are on sale
- May 11, 2016 - voting for Teacher of the Year
- May 26, 2016 – Senior Awards Ceremony

III. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Mrs. Andersen reported:

- MS Walkthrough last week and the school is really beginning to take shape
- Thanked the North Haven Education Foundation for all of their hard work on the Annual Spelling Bee. The Board of Education appreciates all the NHEF does for the school district.

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES (no report)
2. Athletics (no report)
3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Information Item

Information Item

Dr. O'Brien reported:

Guests: Sue Bass, Dana Corriveau, Patti White,

- Lion's Club Vision Program- Dana Corriveau joined us to provide an update for the extended school year. Time allotted for eligible students is being abbreviated to correspond more appropriately with students' IEPs. Dana also discussed a new initiative—the Lion's Club Vision Program—which makes use of a simple-to-operate, noninvasive screening device that goes beyond a simple vision test and generates data on conditions such as lazy eye, misalignment, and anomalies, which are subsequently reported to the student's physician.
- Proposed name change for current grade 9 science course- Patti White (K-12 Science Coordinator) will join us for this discussion Patti White (K-12 Science Coordinator) attended to propose a name change for the Grade 9 course "Principles of Science." The proposal is to change the name to "Introduction to Physical Science." The change is to discourage parents—who interpret the current name as designating a course that is too elementary—from asking that their students skip the course. Students who do not skip the course tend to fare better in subsequent courses than those who do.
C & I approved the name change unanimously.
- Textbook Adoption- Advanced Language and Literature: for Honors and Pre-AP English Courses- Sue Bass (6-12 English Language Arts Coordinator) will join us for this discussion Sue Bass (6-12 English Language Arts Coordinator) joined us to propose a textbook adoption: Advanced Language and Literature: for Honors and Pre-AP English Courses. This is a multi-level and multi-approach book. The committee was impressed with the text and voted to adopt it for our honors and pre-AP classes. We discussed the possibility of extending the adoption to include regular English classes in the future.
- New Club Proposal- Humans of North Haven High New club proposal: "Humans of North Haven." This is a club that recognizes in positive ways exceptional members of the community. The proposal was approved unanimously.
- Nature's Classroom/ Grade 5 Field Trip Survey discussion This just in: The surveys administered regarding parental and faculty preferences for participation in Natures Classroom are complete. The data is still being analyzed and the findings will be reported during the BOE June meeting, at which time the committee will bring an action item based upon the data.

4. Finance and Operations
5. Middle School Building Committee

Information Item

Information Item

The Building Committee met Monday, May 2, 2016. Mr. Adele reported there was a presentation from the Solar Company and looks as though it will move forward, saving the District quite a bit of money over the course of 20 years. Mr. Adele stated that the next big issue will be the approval of the FF&E from the State of Connecticut, which is taking longer than expected due to budget issues.

6. North Haven Education Foundation (no report)
7. Policy (no report)
8. PTA Council (no report)

Information Item

Information Item

VII. Staff Communications

Dr. Cronin shared his power point presentation that he will be sharing at the Town Meeting next week. It outlines his budget plan for the 2016-2017 school year. Dr. Cronin reviewed the 2016-2017 Budget Proposals from the first proposal on February 6, 2016 – April 19, 2016. The Board of Education's original proposal on February 6, 2016 was a 6.1% increase. On March 16, 2016 to Town cut the Board of Education's budget a 4.4% increase. On April 19, 2016, after the word from State Department, the Board of Education was asked by the Town, Board of Finance to cut the budget down to a 3.2% increase, where we are today. Dr. Cronin reported that this additional savings will come from:

- estimated cost savings with prescription drugs
- 10 teacher retirements
- 1 administrator retirement
- reduction in transportation costs (post season)
- certified substitutes
- fuel costs
- instructional supplies

The retired teachers will be replaced, but replaced at a lower salary. North Haven has an agreement with Quinnipiac University for student interns, and they will be supplying the District with 19 student interns this year, which will reduce our need for substitutes, as well as our substitute costs. We also have the addition of part time building substitutes throughout the district. The savings in fuel will be in converting Green Acres from oil to gas. Green Acres is the only school left to convert. There were some questions as to whether or not we would be able to do that, but it has been confirmed that we are able to make that conversion. The money being taken from instructional supplies will now be taken from a grant to be used in the district.

Dr. Cronin stated that is how he got to the 3.2%

1. Discussion and vote on the 2016-2017 Budget

Moved: to approve/adopt the revised 2016-2017 Budget as proposed

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
 SECOND: Bryan Bogen
 AYE: 9
 NAY: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0

Dr. Cronin also reported:

- Last day of school will be June 13, 2016
- NHHS Graduation is June 13, 2016 at 4 p.m.
- MS Recognition Ceremony is also June 13, 2016 in am

Dr. Cronin will be adding an additional shortened day at the end of the year schedule. June 8, 9, 10 and 13 will be shortened days. The extra day will help the moving process at the Middle School. Dr. Cronin will be certain to stay on top of the building project and keep the Board of Education informed throughout the process.

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- UPDATE on the Cross Roads Driving School Request to offer drivers education to our high school students. The original plan was to use space at the Parks and Rec Building, however, that was not a desirable location for families as they were signing their children up because the student has no way of getting there after school. They are now going to use a room at the High School to conduct this business, once all the paperwork is submitted.
- June C&I – will discuss Natures Classroom survey results
- Patti White – has been doing work at State Level around the Next Generation of Science Standards. Mrs. White was selected as a core representative. She was also selected to participate in the Discovery Channel Science Forum. Mrs. White was flown to Tennessee where she worked with representatives from states all over the country around changes in science instruction and the new standards.
- SBAC testing Gr3-8 is in process and going well

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report
2. Approval of the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Information Item

Mrs. Tanguay stated due to the meeting being changed so early in the month, she did not have the Financial Report complete will share the April and May financial reports at the June Board of Education Meeting and the Board can vote on them then.

VIII. Public Comment

- Tom Marak commented on the new Healthcare plan and there concerns and unanswered questions. Mr. Marak also had some comments regarding the budget.
- Julie Bossenberry – commented regarding the proposed reductions

IX. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

- Summer BOE Meetings

X. Executive Session –for matters of personnel

Moved: to enter into Executive Session for matters of personnel

Approved

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
SECOND: Bryan Bogan
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

XI. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson
Chairman